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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re application of: | Cederholm-Williams, Stewart A. | | |
| Serial No. | 09/334,325 | Art Unit: | 1633 |
| Filing Date | June 16, 1999 | Examiner: | Chen, S. |
| For: | Fibrin Sealant As A Transfection/Transformation Vehicle For Gene Therapy | | |
| Docket No. | CV-0276A | | |

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Office Action dated January 3, 2000, the amendments set forth below are respectfully submitted.[1] With the Petition for an Extension of Time (one month) incorporated herein, the present amendment is timely filed on or before May 3, 2000.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

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Please insert as the first line of this application: -- ~~This application claims~~ the priority of US Provisional Application ~~60/089,543~~, filed June 17, 1998. --

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below, and

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1. (**Once Amended**) A method of transforming a cell comprising the steps of: applying a transformation effective amount of a nucleic acid to the cell;

[1] I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST-CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON **MAY 3, 2000**.

By: Arthur E. Jackson, Reg. No. 34,354

[applying] adhering a pliable, adhesive fibrin gel to the cell so as to entrap a transformation effective amount of the nucleic acid in the fibrin gel adhered to the cell; and

transforming the cell with the nucleic acid.

2. (**Once Amended**) The method of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is applied in admixture with a fibrin or fibrinogen composition that forms the pliable, adhesive fibrin gel.

3. (**Once Amended**) A method of conducting gene therapy comprising:

conducting the steps of Claim 1 *in vitro*; and

implanting the transformed cells into an animal.

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4. (**Unchanged**) The method of claim 3, wherein the cell to which the nucleic acid is applied is a precursor of a more specialized cell type, and the method further comprises:

maturing the cell to the specialized cell type either *in vitro* or *in vivo* following the implanting.

Please cancel claims 5-12 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please enter the following new claims:

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13. (**New**) The method of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is a plasmid.

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14. (**New**) The method of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is incorporated in a virus.

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15. (**New**) The method of claim 1, wherein the pliable, adhesive fibrin gel is formed by mixing a fibrin monomer composition with a polymerizing agent preparation effective to convert the fibrin monomer preparation into a fibrin gel, and adhered by contacting the cell with the mixture while the mixture is pliable and adhesive.